## 17413 NE 10th. Street Bellevue, WA 98008-3811

January 13, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I am writing to express my opinion that I support for the recent antitrust settlement between Microsoft and the US Department of Justice. Not only has the case dragged on too long, but also, millions of taxpayer dollars have been wasted on these lawsuits.

The terms of the settlement are harsh and so should be more than enough to satisfy lawmakers and politicians. Microsoft is offering up technology on internal interfaces and server interoperability that will allow competitors to create products that are compatible with Microsoft. They are also forming three-person team to monitor compliance with the settlement. These terms show Microsoft's willingness to compromise and are more than necessary concessions to an already flawed lawsuit.

Ever since litigation began, the American IT sector and the economy started turning sour. I am not saying there is a direct correlation, but it is apparent to me that before Microsoft and the IT sector see the growth they did over 3 years ago, all litigation must end. These lawsuits have slowed down the industry, so it is in the best interest of the American public and the economy for the settlement to be finalized.

Don Trandum